

Date

Name
Street
Street 2
City, State, Zip

Re: Notice of the Georgia Medicaid Estate Recovery Program

Dear Medicaid Member:

The Georgia Department of Community Health (DCH) will implement the Medicaid Estate Recovery Program beginning May 1, 2006. We hope this second letter helps clarify for you the key components of the program and how it may apply to you. In addition, we are attaching a document containing answers to frequently asked questions to provide you with additional information. Please review the information carefully and **contact the Medicaid Estate Recovery Office at 770-916-0328 if you have any questions regarding this matter.**

Estate recovery applies to members who reside in a nursing facility or other long term care facility paid for by Medicaid. It also applies to members who are 55 years of age or older and are receiving services through Medicaid waiver programs including members participating in home and community based services.

There are certain circumstances where the state will not seek recovery of assets or take action to recover monies spent on your medical care. For example, the state will not seek recovery if your estate is valued at less than \$25,000 or if other specific hardships exist. **If you have a spouse, child under 21 or blind or permanently disabled children living in the home, the state will delay action. Specific circumstances may qualify the heir of a Medicaid member to be eligible for exemptions or hardship waivers.**

If you do not wish to be subject to estate recovery, you have the option to withdraw from the Georgia Medicaid program by April 14, 2006. In this case, Medicaid will no longer pay for your health care services beginning May 1, 2006. However, if you withdraw and later reapply and accept Medicaid services, you will be subject to estate recovery back to 2001, if applicable. To withdraw from the Medicaid program, please contact your local Department of Family and Children Services (DFCS) caseworker as soon as possible.

Again, please take time to review this information regarding the Medicaid Estate Recovery Program. Call the Medicaid Estate Recovery Office at 770-916-0328 with any questions.

Sincerely,

Georgia Department of Community Health

Enclosure: Frequently Asked Questions